



House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

**Sarah Champion**  
**Member of Parliament for Rotherham**

**Immediate release**  
**8th July 2014**

## **Sarah Champion MP takes plight of Rotherham pensioner to the Chancellor**

Rotherham MP Sarah Champion has taken up the cause of local Thrybergh pensioner, Aileen Trickett, who has seen her tax free pension allowance shrink by over 12% in the last three years.

Sarah's action comes after Ms. Trickett noticed that whilst the Government were telling pensioners they were better off, she was in fact worse off because her tax free pension allowance was dramatically reducing year on year. Ms. Trickett immediately contacted Sarah, who went to visit the pensioner in her home.

Sarah commented: "The Government are making headlines by talking about giving away pensions in up front lump sums – but they are giving with one hand and taking away with the other.

"Aileen's case shows that while the personal tax allowance for pensioners has stayed the same, the tax deductions made from that allowance are increasing year on year. This means that the tax free limit leftover at the end is shrinking every year.

"Times are tough right now, and with the rising cost of utility bills, groceries and rents, it is not right that the government are taking money away from pensioners.

"I would like to know how many other Rotherham pensioners have seen their tax free allowance shrinking, so that I can understand how widespread this problem is. If this is you, please contact my office on 01709 331038 to let me know."

Sarah has now written to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne, asking him to look into the situation. She is keen to hear from other Rotherham pensioners who have seen their tax free allowance shrinking.

**ENDS NR037**

Notes to Editors:

The full text of the debate can be found here:

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